

Serial No. 10/574,656
Amendment dated June 11, 2009
Reply to Office Action of March 13, 2009

Docket No. K-0789

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A refrigerator, comprising:
 - a cold air duct configured to receive cold air circulating inside of a refrigerating chamber and a freezing chamber;
 - an evaporator in the cold air duct;
 - at least one defrosting heater in the cold air duct configured to selectively emit heat;
 - a fan in the cold air duct that selectively directs the cold air in an upward or downward direction;
 - a motor that drives the fan; and
 - an open/close device that selectively opens and closes a space containing the evaporator, the defrosting heater, and the fan positioned therein, wherein the space communicates with both the refrigerating chamber and the freezing chamber, and wherein the open/close device is configured to be rotated by a force of a flow of the cold air generated by rotation of the fan so that the opening or closing between the space and the refrigerating chamber and the space and the freezing chamber are performed by the open/close device simultaneously.
2. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the

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open/close device comprises:

a first open/close part on an upper side of the space; and

a second open/close part on a lower side of the space.

3. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first and second open/close parts each comprises:

a supporting plate having a plurality of openings; and

a plurality of rotating plates each having one side coupled to the supporting plate by a hinge, and the other side rotatable upward by a predetermined angle.

4. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 3, wherein each rotating plate comprises a thin plate that is rotated upward by a predetermined angle to open a respective opening of the plurality of openings.

5. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 3, wherein the rotating plate covers an upper circumference of the respective opening to close the opening.

6. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 3, wherein the rotating plate is held by a rear end of an adjacent rotating plate and the supporting plate, to prevent the rotating plate from rotating downward.

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7. (Original) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fan is positioned over the evaporator.

8. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the defrosting heater is positioned between the fan and the evaporator.

9. (Original) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the defrosting heater is fabricated as one unit with the fan.

10. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the defrosting heater comprises:

a hot wire that functions as a resistance body connected to a power source for emission of heat; and

a film of an electrical insulating material surrounding the hot wire.

11. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 10, wherein the evaporator comprises:

at least one refrigerant pipe configured to receive a refrigerant that flows therethrough; and

a plurality of fins in contact with the at least one refrigerant pipe.

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12. (Currently Amended) A refrigerator, comprising:

a cold air duct configured to receive cold air circulating inside of a refrigerating chamber and a freezing chamber;

an evaporator disposed in the cold air duct, the evaporator comprising at least one refrigerant pipe configured to receive a refrigerant that flows therethrough, and a plurality of fins in contact with the at least one refrigerant pipe;

at least one defrosting heater in contact with one or more of the plurality of fins for selective emission of heat; and

an open/close device provided at an upper portion and a lower portion of a space containing the evaporator and the defrosting heater positioned therein, that opens and closes the space, wherein the space communicates with both the refrigerating chamber and the freezing chamber, and wherein the open/close device is configured to be rotated so that the opening or closing between the space and the refrigerating chamber and the space and the freezing chamber are performed by the open/close device simultaneously.

13. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 12, wherein the defrosting heater comprises:

a hot wire that functions as a resistance body connected to a power source for emission of heat; and

a film of an electrical insulating material surrounding the hot wire.

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14. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 13, wherein the hot wire is a bent carbon hot wire.

15. (Original) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 13, wherein the film is formed of PET material.

16. (Original) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 12, wherein the defrosting heater is a PTC device.

17. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 12, wherein the defrosting heater is attached to a surface of at least one of the plurality of fins.

18. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 12, wherein the defrosting heater is attached to one side of the plurality of fins.

19. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 12, wherein the defrosting heater has pass through holes for the at least one refrigerant pipe.

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20. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 12, wherein at least a portion of the plurality of fins have insertion slots in side surfaces configured to receive the defrosting heater.

21. (Canceled).

22. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 21, further comprising: a fan in the cold air duct that selectively directs the cold air in an upward or downward direction; and

a motor that drives the fan.

23. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 22, wherein the open/close device comprises:

a supporting plate having a plurality of openings; and

a plurality of rotating plates each having one side coupled to one side of the supporting plate by a hinge, and the other side rotatable upward by a predetermined angle.

24. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 23, wherein the rotating plate comprises a thin plate that is rotated upward by a predetermined angle to open a respective opening of the plurality of openings .

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25. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator as claimed in claim 23, wherein the rotating plate covers an upper circumference of the respective opening to close the opening.